UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office Trademark Trial and Appeal Board 2900 Crystal Drive Arlington, Virginia 22202-3513

Mailed: June 16, 2003

Opposition No. 91151554

BLISS WORLD LLC

v.

WILLIAMS, MATT

## Nancy L. Omelko, Interlocutory Attorney:

In response to an order of the Board after applicant's counsel was granted a request to withdraw as counsel of record, applicant responded that he intends to represent himself in this proceeding. While Patent and Trademark Rule 10.14 permits any person to represent himself, it is generally advisable for a person who is not acquainted with the technicalities of the procedural and substantive law involved in inter partes proceedings before the Board to secure the services of an attorney who is familiar with such matters. The Patent and Trademark Office cannot aid in the selection of an attorney.

In addition, applicant should note that Trademark Rule 2.119(a) and (b) require that every paper filed in the Patent and Trademark Office in a proceeding before the Board must be served upon the attorney for the other party, or on the party if there is no attorney, and proof of such service

must be made before the paper will be considered by the Board. Consequently, copies of all papers which applicant may subsequently file in this proceeding must be accompanied by a signed statement indicating the date and manner in which such service was made. The statement, whether attached to or appearing on the paper when filed, will be accepted as prima facie proof of service.

It is recommended that applicant obtain a copy of the latest edition of Chapter 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which includes the Trademark Rules of Practice, and is available for a fee from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Strict compliance with the Trademark Rules of Practice and where applicable, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, is expected of all parties before the Board, whether or not they are represented by counsel.<sup>1</sup>

Proceedings herein are resumed and trial dates are reset as follows:

THE PERIOD FOR DISCOVERY TO CLOSE: CLOSED

Testimony period for party in position of plaintiff to close: A (opening thirty days prior thereto)

August 15, 2003

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Trademark Trial and Appeal Board Manual of Procedure (TBMP) (Stock No. 903-022-00000-1) is available for a fee from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. (Telephone (202) 512-1800). The TBMP is also available on the World Wide Web at http://www.uspto.gov.

Testimony period for party in position of defendant to close: (opening thirty days prior thereto)

October 14, 2003

Rebuttal testimony period to close (opening fifteen days prior thereto)

November 28, 2003

In each instance, a copy of the transcript of testimony together with copies of documentary exhibits, must be served on the adverse party within thirty days after completion of the taking of testimony. Trademark Rule 2.125.

Briefs shall be filed in accordance with Trademark Rule 2.128(a) and (b). An oral hearing will be set only upon request filed as provided by Trademark Rule 2.129.